MINUTES
American Quilt Study Group Board of Directors
August 26, 2026
Lincoln, NE

Board members present: Millie Kehrli, Sharon Pinka, Colleen Hall-Patton, Jill Alexander, David Bailey, Joanna Evans, Vanessa Rico, Mary Wolter, Selina Toedter (taking minutes)

Board members not present: Mary Fons, Kristin Barrus

Others present: Carrie Dell (Executive Director), Nancy Bavor (Past President), Hallie Bond (*Blanket Statements* editor)
Oncoming board members Katy O'Donnell, Sara Locascio,
Members Marykay Waldvogel, Dana Balsanaro, Dawn Heefner, and Sandy Sutton

Millie Kehrli called the meeting to order at 5:10 pm CT.

Call for Changes to the Agenda and Approval of previous minutes:
The email from a member regarding a Lincoln travel fund and a Treasurer update were added to Additional Business.

Motion to approve the agenda made by Joanna, seconded by Jill Alexander. None opposed.

Member feedback
Dana Balsamo and Dawn Heefner, Sandy Sutton, and MaryKay Waldvogel asked to provide some feedback to the board.

They emphasized their respect for the board and their wish to see communication and trust strengthened between leadership, staff, and the general membership. Various

topics were discussed at length and Dana Balsamo emailed written notes to the board for further review.

The board acknowledged these concerns and discussed the importance of consistent processes, transparency, and accountability. The board is gathering further detail on specific concerns raised in order to address them directly.

Board members thanked the group for their time and candor.

Motion to approve the June 7, 2026 minutes was made by Joanna Evans, seconded by Sharon Pinka. All in favor, none opposed.

Committee Reports
Kristin Barrus and Carrie Dell are planning to meet about the finance report as Kristin's term comes to an end. There were a few issues with the financial comparison data provided by the accountant, so the board will receive the report after Seminar.

Motion to approve the consent agenda pending the updated financial report was made by Jill Alexander and seconded by Joanna Evans. None opposed.

Uncoverings editor
Sharbreon has submitted her resignation due to a mismatch between her bandwidth and the amount of time AQSG requires of the position. This year's authors have already been informed. The announcement to members will be done at Seminar.

Balancing the needs of both the Editor position and our authors was discussed. As an interdisciplinary organization, there are many complex methods and topics that an individual author may need. Updating the technical guides is needed.

We have established a group of three member-reviewers who provide targeted reviews. The work of Educational Programs Director, Stephanie Capps-Dyke, will also help both the Editor and authors.

A managing editor and team of co-editors with clear, delineated tasks was suggested as a potential alternative model to our current process. This may be required given the

tight timeline we would be faced with to find, hire, and train a new 'solo' Editor. Discussion followed. The Executive Committee will write-up a description of the new process and send it to the full board for review.

50th Anniversary edition

Sharon Pinka and Joanna Evans have been discussing how to honor AQSG's 50th anniversary in 2029. They suggested an expanded issue of *Uncoverings* with an article on our 50 year history, an expanded *Blanket Statements*, or an additional publication similar to the *Quilt Studies* book. Special programming could also be an opportunity to mark the occasion. The board will discuss ideas again at a later date.

Quilt Study Co-Chair Opening

Quilt Study is still in need of a co-chair. Open chairmanship to Quilt Study participants would make finding a co-chair much easier. After discussion, the board determined that as long as the chairs are not involved in the final selection process or selection of the 'judges', there is no opportunity for a breach of privilege. The board will continue to select the theme and will now also vote on the selection committee.

Long-time Quilt Study participant Stephanie Capps-Dyke has expressed interest in volunteering as co-chair. The board welcomed her volunteering and stressed that this role will not be considered part of her paid work as Educational Director at AQSG. Stephanie looks forward to donating her time and expertise.

Bylaws revisions

The ad-hoc bylaws review committee has submitted a list of revisions to the bylaws for consideration. Millie Kehrli and Carrie Dell will submit the suggestions to our lawyer for a review of their legality and feasibility before approaching the Executive Committee and board with the suggested revisions.

Inappropriate comments from a member update

There have been a number of inappropriate comments from a particular member who has been suspended from the members-only Facebook group on two occasions. Many of the comments are aimed to be hurtful and clearly violate our community guidelines.

Millie Kehrli wrote this member a letter to inform them that an additional suspension will result in complete removal from the group. It was reiterated that the group is a privilege of membership, not a guarantee.

Lincoln, NE travel fund
A member has emailed asking the board to consider creating a fund for travel to Lincoln specifically to use the archives at UNL for research. It was noted that with the closure of the UNL Textiles, Merchandising, and Fashion Design department at the beginning of the year, the future of the archive at UNL is unknown. Some collections will be retained, but UNL has not publicized further detail.

The proposed fund is restrictive and research at UNL would be eligible under the current research travel funds. More details are needed at this time so the board will re-visit the idea again at a later date.

Treasurer update
Mary Wolter met with Kristin Barrus and discussed the role and commitment to meeting attendance and report-writing. The board thanks Mary and Kristin for their time and expertise.

Motion from Vanessa, to approve Mary Wolter as Treasurer. Selina Toedter seconds. None opposed.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Joanna Evans and seconded by Selina Toedter. None opposed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:39 pm CT.

Respectfully submitted,
Selina Faulkner Toedter
September 4, 2026